

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2608
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2001
CONVERSION OF INS VIKRANT INTO MARITIME MUSEUM
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether INS Vikrant is being converted into maritime museum;
- (b) if so, the details finalised with Navy and Maharashtra Government in this regard;
- (c) the time-frame worked out thereof; and
- (d) funds earmarked therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a) to (d): The State Government of Maharashtra had evinced keen interest in converting 'INS Vikrant' into a maritime museum. Accordingly, it was decided to gift the ship to the State Government for conversion into a museum. However, in April, 2000, the State Government conveyed its inability to implement the scheme. As such, it was decided to dispose of the ship as "scrap" and tenders were invited accordingly. However, in July, 2000, the State Government of Maharashtra renewed their request for conversion of the ship into a museum. As such, the process initiated for disposal of the ship as "scrap" was kept in abeyance.

The State Government have since informed that the feasibility report and the site have been finalized. The State Government has been requested to shift the ship to an alternate berth and ensure the ship's safety.

The museum project is to be undertaken entirely by the Government of Maharashtra and is likely to take about three years to complete. No funding support by the Navy is envisaged.